agrees with the bill's sponsors about the Federal Government's obligation to provide comprehensive, compassionate lifetime care to chimpanzees that are no longer needed in federally supported research. The Act provides a statutory framework for a sanctuary system in fulfillment of this obligation. I am confident that the executive branch and the Congress can work together to satisfactorily resolve the problems inherent in the legislation in its current form.

William J. Clinton

The White House,

December 20, 2000.

NOTE: H.R. 3514, approved December 20, was assigned Public Law No. 106–551.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

December 20, 2000

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c) and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) emergency declared in Executive Order 12808 on May 30, 1992, and with respect to the Kosovo emergency declared in Executive Order 13088 on June 9, 1998.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate.

Remarks at the Arts and Humanities Awards Dinner

December 20, 2000

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. I will be brief. I said what I had to say this afternoon. I loved it. I hope all of you did. I can hardly believe this is the eighth and last event like this that I will have a chance to preside over. But I want all of you to know, it has been a great honor.

And one of the things that I have prized most about being President is the opportunity to highlight the good that others do—many times famous and powerful people, many times people who would otherwise have been completely unknown. But I have a special feeling about the arts and humanities because in politics, we are always concerned with the moment and trying to win the moment for the American people. But in the end, those things that are timeless matter more. And that is what all of you have given us.

I want to thank those who sponsored these events today and made them possible. I want to thank the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, Bill Ferris and Bill Ivey and all those who work with them. Since we're celebrating the arts tonight, I want to thank the magnificent musicians of the United States Marine Corps, who have made my life so wonderful these last 8 years. And Maestro Slatkin and our hometown symphony here, who will be playing later. And my friend Thomas Hampson—thank you all very much.

I would like to ask all of you just to begin this evening by joining me in a toast to our honorees. They are an amazing assemblage of creative people, each unique, sharing the common fact that they have given us more than we ever could have imagined. Please join me in a toast to the 2000 honorees to the National Medal of the Arts and the National Medal of the Humanities.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:18 p.m. in a pavilion on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Leonard Slatkin, Music

Director, National Symphony Orchestra; and baritone Thomas Hampson. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of the First Lady.

Interview With Ellis Rubinstein of Science Magazine

December 6, 2000

Government and Science

Mr. Rubinstein. Our thinking is, you're finishing your second term at the millennium. We're in a new millennium, so you have a lot to look back on that would be interesting. We know you're a visionary, so we're interested in what you think about the future. I thought that we would start with a couple of philosophical things before getting into the practical things, because I think it would be interesting for our folks to hear you address the following issue.

Some of us would make the case that science is becoming such a core part of our individual human lives that something is actually transformed from the way it was some decades ago. That is to say, you almost can't turn around without needing to have information about science. I don't know if that's something that you feel, but I was hoping that you would address the notion about whether you feel that the impact that science can have now on society, individuals, or government is substantially greater in your mind than it was when you were younger and if that, in effect, has some sort of question——

The President. Well, first, let me say I think, at a minimum, we are much more aware of the impact of science on our daily lives than we were when I was young. I'll just give you just one example. You just take the space program, for example, where we—if you go back and look at the rhetoric of President Kennedy and the space program, we had to get out there, and we worried about—we didn't want the Russians to beat us into space, and could they do something negative back here?

And then you look at the rhetoric around what we're saying about the space station. We've got 16 nations working together. And we want it because it will give us some sense, looking back at Earth, about what's happening to the environment on Earth, how to handle climate change, what else should we do about global warming. It will help us in our studies in a gravity-free environment of all kinds of biological issues, how proteins form, what happens to tissues, all these kinds of things. It will help us in our efforts to resolve remaining questions in the material science area, which have been so pivotal to our growth of productivity and economic strength. So if you think about the range of subjects that are part of kind of the basic language of space research, as compared to where it was 35, 40 years ago, it's just one example of that.

And of course, most people didn't know there was any such thing as a human genome; most people still don't know what nanotechnology is. But if you combine the sequencing of the human gene and the capacity to identify genetic variations that lead to various kinds of cancers with the potential of nanotechnology, you get to the point where, in the imagination, you're identifying cancers when—assuming you have the screening technologies right—there are only a few cells coagulated together in this mutinous way, so that you raise the prospect of literally having 100 percent cure and prevention rate for every kind of cancer, which is something that would have been just unimaginable before.

Those are just two examples, and I could give you lots of others. And I think this whole—the inevitable increasing preoccupation of the world with climate change—yesterday I set aside 70 percent of the reefs that the United States has for protection in the northern Hawaiian Islands—I think that will lead inevitably—when people start thinking about the prospect that the sugarcane fields in Louisiana or the Florida Everglades could flood or agriculture could move north, people will get a lot more of the science.

And the other thing I would say is, I think that the globalization of society has made us all more vulnerable to each other's epidemics and viruses.

Mr. Rubinstein. More bioterrorism?

The President. Yes. And that's the final point I was going to make, that I think that